The Akasha Hypothesis

A Metaphysical Thought Experiment on Spirits and Hauntings

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Abstract

The purpose of this thought experiment was to determine if it was possible to formulate a hypothesis. The hypothesis would need to incorporate concepts from both scientific research in quantum physics and neuroscience. My thinking? These ideas could be used to answer the main points of spirits and hauntings. I wanted to include in this hypothesis the way Near Death Experiences (NDEs) and Shared Death Experiences (SDEs) might also be explained using the same mechanisms that would allow a haunting to exist.

Several assumptions had to be made regarding theories surrounding consciousness and multidimensional string theory. While this thought experiment is primarily focused on the idea of "intelligent hauntings" and how the "Spirits" could come into existence. I also looked to see if some processes posited here could be applied to explain other ideas put forward by paranormal research.

In the thought experiment, I have deliberately tried to avoid terms like "Spirit", "Ghost", "Spectre", or "hauntings". I wished to examine these phenomena through a scientific lens and remove the mystical and religious connotations that pervade nearly all the language used by paranormal investigators in their rhetoric. I will be referring to what would normally be called "Ghosts" or "Spirits" as Detached Consciousness (DC) or Entities.

Background

I find it fascinating how ideas are conceived and developed, especially when they combine seemingly disparate concepts. This, I believe, is truer when these notions spring from many fields. The inception for me was watching an old BBC documentary on their archive channel from a well-known video-sharing platform. What makes the burgeoning of this hypothesis even more odd is that it sprang from a momentary misunderstanding of what one of the researchers said regarding the frequency of the ghosts that appear in his windmill.

For that second, when I thought that he was talking about the ghosts, each having a frequency of their own, a thought started. Having recently read an article on string theory regarding the theory of a multidimensional universe where each dimension is separated by its own vibrational frequency, the two notions combined to spark the start of this hypothesis in my mind. This spark of a concept started me down the path of a thought experiment on how not only ghosts could hypothetically exist, but also discern why some people can perceive them better than others.

Now, while this exercise is completely hypothetical and totally unfalsifiable, I did think it may be of interest to some people out there. Even if it only shows how easy it is to create a semi-rational explanation for anything, using existing evidence from science and fitting it into an abstract thought.

A factor that appeared as I started researching, that factor was the concept that there seemed to be a long tradition of some form of "Spirit Energy" that goes back thousands of years. The notion of this

energy as a fully formed non-corporeal version of the person appears to be a constant. The idea of this constant description of an ethereal apparition of a person did make me consider if the concept was derived not from a random picking of an idea. Maybe that this idea was based more on observations made by people who had been visited by a vision of a deceased tribe member. Subsequently, these concepts were added to their religious beliefs.

I also considered that there does appear to be a shift among some scientists as to what constitutes reality in recent years. Some fields of science seem to have started to undergo a paradigm shift away from a physical reality and more toward a reality that is driven by consciousness. There has been an idea postulated that if you removed all the energy from the cells and atoms of all the Humans on earth, the actual physical matter would constitute a sugar cube in size.

The Simulation Model of reality is a concept of a reality driven by consciousness; this model theorises that what we perceive around us is a construct created by our own consciousness. It also theorises that only what we perceive around us is in existence at that point in time, and everything else is in a limbo state, waiting till we need to perceive it.

It is important to note here that this version of the Simulation model is not that of a conspiracy theory-driven, computer-based, virtual reality. Rather, this is a concept based on the notion of how an observer can affect the outcome of quantum particle interactions. This model has taken this notion to question if we can have an effect on reality, and that is what we create in the physical world around us as we observe that world.

This would mean that no two people would or in fact could perceive reality in the same way, something that has been postulated in psychology and neuroscience for a while. The idea of a reality that is created by the observer would also allow for the idea of extraordinary feats to be accomplished by individuals. They would be able to do this as reality could be “twisted” to a certain point by their focus of thought.

This version of the Simulation Model proposes that the universe is not a pre-existing, static, material entity, but is rather a construct environment that only takes on a definite, physical state when it is observed or measured. In this model, it is the observer that acts as the “rendering” mechanism, to create the “physical World” we perceive.

The Model would allow for superpositions to collapse into a singular reality for the observer. This version of reality would need to consider entanglement as part of reality’s “Source Code”, allowing for instant interactions even over great distances. This so-called “Source Code” would also have to contain certain ideas, such as gravity, that could not be distorted by a person's focus of thought, allowing for certain universal constants to exist.

With this model, we should also take note that with this notion of reality, reality itself would be made of thought and would only obtain its physical state when an observer experiences it. While this model of reality has some critics and is often described as a philosophical view rather than a scientific model, it does seem to answer some of the more quirky problems raised within quantum physics.

The idea of this simulated reality was first put forward in 2003 by Oxford Philosopher Nick Bostrom and has been built upon by Rizwam Virk, a computer scientist, the physicists Thomas Campbell and John Wheeler. These later proponents of the simulation model have built upon Nick Bostrom's original argument for the Simulation Model, adding to it with explanations for the "Glitches in our reality". It is these glitches that I feel might be where the Paranormal comes in to our perception of reality, and where our ability to perceive or not perceive Detached Consciousnesses comes in.

Firstly, I want to cover what I hope to explain with my hypothesis. There are several factors I am hoping to cover in an attempt to explain the construction of a "haunting".

1. To attempt an explanation of how Near Death Experiences (NDEs) may happen as a person passes on, as well as address some aspects of Shared Death Experiences (SDEs).
2. Look at how Spirits may come to stay on the physical plane.
3. Examine how some people seem to be more able to experience and perceive these Entities.
4. To explain the different types of "Intelligent Hauntings" that are reported.
5. Explain how a Detached Consciousness can be perceived by anyone at certain locations.

Assumptions

Before I begin on the details of this hypothesis, I feel I should point out that for this thought experiment to work, we need to make several assumptions about some aspects we will be talking about. We need to take as fact that these assumptions are true. I also want to make it clear that here we are only referring to what is known as "intelligent hauntings". There are several hypotheses out there for what are commonly known as "residual hauntings".

The first factor we need to look at is that of the human consciousness. There is much debate in the world of neuroscience regarding what they call the hard problem, that of how is consciousness stored. The debate revolves around whether a person's consciousness is stored within the brain or if it is an external entity. For this hypothesis, we need to take for granted that humans have a non-local consciousness and that the idea of it exists in a form similar to the concept of a universal mind.

The second factor that we need to assume is that we live in a non-deterministic universe. While this is not essential to the hypothesis, a non-determinist universe does make more sense if we are looking at the fact that some people choose to remain after their body has passed on. If we take the view that a person is destined to be trapped on a physical plane from birth, it makes the whole issue of existing past your physical body irrelevant.

The third factor is that the aspects of multi-dimensional string theory are correct in general. The reason that we need these extra dimensions is that for the hypothesis to function, I'm proposing that our non-local consciousness exists in one of these dimensions. We also need to assume that there is a remote connection to our brain, much like an IP address on a network, that allows us to function as one entity.

The fourth factor to make an assumption on is that each of these dimensions occupies the same space as the dimensions we can perceive. We will also need to assume that the matter and energy in these other dimensions vibrate at a different frequency from our own. While there are many theories in quantum mechanics over these dimensions, if we assume for the purpose of this hypothesis that everything outside the 4 Dimensions we can perceive is just out of our ability to consciously discern. If these dimensions also have a unique frequency, then we can use that concept to explain why some people are able to “sense ghosts and spirits”.

Lastly, we need to assume that the microtubules and neurons in the human brain are subject to the laws of Quantum Mechanics and that they are able to become entangled and subject to superposition through some as-yet unknown mechanism. There have been studies made at Trinity College Dublin that show this may be possible and that entanglement may be the cause of consciousness.

The 2022 study using MRIs (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) revealed that the MRI images showed activity that resembled EEG readings; they believed this came form an unknown intermediary that caused the Protons to become entangled. The possibility of consciousness becoming entangled and synced is a big step in our assumptions, but the idea of this connection happening may be possible, if only a remote possibility.

There have been a lot more studies on the ideas of entanglement, though most are more anecdotal than the Trinity College study; they do seem to show the possibility of consciousness and perhaps even thought becoming connected and possibly synced at a deep subconscious level. Though there are some detractors who feel the brain is too “noisy” to maintain this entangled state.

There have been some recent studies in the University of WitwaterSrand in South Africa that have appeared to show some highly complex topological structures inside of photons. The most complex of these observed so far consists of a structure spanning 48 dimensions and over 17,000 distinct topological signatures. Scientists believe that this vast set of patterns could negate the problems encountered with noise disrupting sustained entanglement.

Before we can begin with a thought experiment that looks at the mechanisms and processes that may explain how a “spirit” can exist. I feel it is important to note here that for the idea of a consciousness surviving in another dimension. I have assumed here that a Detached Consciousness would exist much in the same way as the idea of quantum energy or a zero-point field.

There have been some parallels made by paranormal researchers between this quantum energy and the idea of the 19th century concept of aether. The notion of a quintessence that fills the universe goes back to medieval times and was often an element sought by alchemists. There is a much longer history to this idea of an energy field, as descriptions of it go back as far as the Vedic texts, where it was known as Akasha. This energy crudely resembles the description of modern quantum energy.

With these assumptions made we can begin to look at the process by which my hypothesis could explain how “hauntings” might occur. I am going to go through the steps here of how the consciousness may leave the physical form and how the resulting energy could become the source of the “apparitions” and “spirits” that have been reported for many years.

Creation of Consciousness

This topic has been addressed by many leading neuroscientists and frankly may never be fully answered, after all, they do refer to the idea of consciousness as the hard problem. For the purpose of this hypothesis, I felt it may be prudent to lay out a notion of how consciousness may become sentient. If we take the idea of our consciousness as an energy field, and we assume that it can exist without a physical form. Then it may be that once this energy reaches a certain state, it changes from pure energy and transmutes into a consciousness and is an independent entity from the rest of the energy field. The consciousness could then connect to a physical form. I would imagine that this would be a universal process that would take place for all sentient life.

The Human to Spirit Process

The starting point here is when a person passes away. Looking at the reports given by people regarding their NDEs, it would appear that the consciousness moves away from the physical body as the end comes. When life expires, the mechanism that keeps the mind and body connected is severed completely, leaving the consciousness to still exist. While in this model, the consciousness does not move on in the traditional notion of the "soul" leaving the body and residing somewhere else. Rather, it is now free of the physical form and is also now beyond the perception of most people, existing as and in a field of energy in one of the extra six or seven dimensions.

The reasoning for the notion of an as-yet unknown mechanism connecting the physical form and the more ethereal consciousness existing as we need some way to explain sensation. For the consciousness to experience physical sensation and be able to keep that "feeling", there would need to be a way to transfer "information" between the physical and non-physical elements. The connection could also be used to explain why, when people experience NDEs and are revived, the consciousness returns; The mechanism in this case would not have been immediately severed by the trauma to the body. This trauma we can assume causes a weakening of the connection, allowing for the consciousness to become distant from the physical form while still remaining connected.

Regarding the Phenomena of SDEs, which seem to occur when people pass away, and there is someone in close proximity. The subject in the room with the dying person feels that they leave the room and experience the same phenomena as the dying person, but then they will return to the room where they started. This return would be due to the final mechanism that releases the consciousness, having not been triggered.

Now, while there is much evidence that people who spend a lot of time together can often start to think in similar ways, and also "know" what the other person will think of something. I am proposing that this may exist at a deeper level than we know. Looking at studies regarding this behaviour and experiments to prove minds can be connected at a distance, it would seem to suggest that this connection exists on a deeper level than we realise.

If studies that propose entanglement could occur between two brains, it could also be possible, using our defined notions of consciousness, that the two separate minds of people in extended

periods of close proximity could synchronise. Under normal circumstances, this would not manifest as anything more than being able to know what a person will say about something. However, under these extreme conditions, the meshing of the two separate consciousnesses could become more deeply connected and actually experience this last process of the other person.

While it has often been said that the NDE experience is just a biological process of the body dying and a lack of oxygen to the brain. This definition does not explain the phenomenon of the SDE experience, where the person is obviously not dying. Add to this that in Dr Michael Persinger`s experiments with the so-called “God Helmet”, many of the phenomena reported by people who underwent that experiment resembled the phenomena reported by people who experienced NDEs and SDEs.

During my research into this part of my hypothesis, I began to consider whether this process of minds becoming entangled and synchronised could be extended to pets. There have been numerous anecdotal reports about how pets appear to sense when their owner is ill or is about to have a seizure. There have been mainstream media reports on this topic, yet there appears to be no comprehensive explanation of why this happens. I would put forward the notion that if minds can become entangled, then it is possible that it may also occur with pets, as they would meet the criteria for close proximity and for extended periods of time.

Spirits

Once the consciousness has been disconnected from the body and has now become a non-corporeal Detached Consciousness, the energy still exists in the universe but is now beyond our perception. What I am proposing here is that this energy field still possesses all of our knowledge, memories and even our personality. We would even have a residual self-image of ourselves; this may not be how we looked at death, but rather we would resemble a look we had when we were at our happiest in our physical forms. This may not be a fixed state either, and the Detached Consciousness may be able to alter how they look, especially if they want to communicate with a loved one. Being in this state, we would possess no physical form; as such, we would not be restrained by our current perceptions of reality. In this instance, it may be possible that our separated consciousness could display abilities that are beyond what most people are capable of in a physical form, such as psychokinesis.

When we are separated from our physical form, I posit the idea that we make a choice. We can either merge with the energy field that our consciousness has come from to enter a gestalt state, joining a universal mind, or universal consciousness. This is the metaphysical concept that allegedly joins us all together and could be the source of the Akashic records. This idea of a universal store of knowledge does originate in our ancient past, even the Vedic texts from India suggest this possibility. With this choice, the memories and personality of the person would not be lost but shared amongst the group consciousness.

The choice to join in with a gestalt-like consciousness could be perceived by the Detached Consciousness or by someone who has experienced an NDE or SDE as the classical white light. Dr Raymond Moody did a lot of studies on both NDEs and SDEs, and he did note that while the names

may differ due to religious or cultural views, the descriptions were remarkably similar in what they saw. This would suggest that it may not be just a hallucination from the lack of oxygen, but possibly a different form of physiological response to the body dying, that of the consciousness transitioning from the physical form.

Another choice we can make is to continue to exist as a singular Detached Consciousness, where we would be able to explore and visit people and places as we wanted; it may even be possible, as we are not constrained by the physical laws of the universe, that we may even be able to travel beyond the earth. With this choice, it may also be possible for the consciousness to temporarily connect to the gestalt consciousness but not to merge with it.

The last option is that the detached consciousness is unable to move on through a conscious choice. In this instance, the detached consciousness is trapped in our reality. There might be several possibilities why this occurs. It is possible that if the person experiences a sudden death, the consciousness is shocked at the point of disconnection from the physical form. When this happens, they cannot understand that it is no longer a physical entity but is a Detached Consciousness.

Another reason for the consciousness to become trapped is that the person feels that they have unfinished business and that they feel unable to transcend the physical world until their business is resolved. This might be as simple as saying goodbye to loved ones, or something much more complicated, like trying to tell them your wishes or where something is hidden.

This inability to leave those closest to us could be a lasting result of the synchronised or entangled state of the consciousness with the loved one and the Detached Consciousness. It is possible that this may weaken over time as a result of the person thinking less of the deceased. It may be because, without the regular interaction between the two consciousnesses, it would weaken, as it would even if they were both living.

The final reason for this state of entrapment in the physical world could be that the person fears what moving on might mean. If they have deeply held religious beliefs, it would not be unreasonable to assume that they might have trepidations about what awaits them. This belief could be exacerbated if they felt they had not been the best of people while living.

It is also possible that they have a deep attachment to the people left behind, but unlike the people who choose to exist as a singular Detached Consciousness, and explore. These would then be bound to a person fearing to leave them, or to a place that they may have deep-rooted and fond memories of. Again too fearful to move on, or there is a sense of not having lived up to their potential.

If these remaining Detached Consciousnesses are now made of pure energy, it is possible that they could have some physical effects on the people they are around. This idea would tie into how paranormal investigators describe many events and effects of “hauntings”.

If, as I posited earlier, this process could be universal, then it may be entirely possible that what some paranormal researchers refer to as “Inhuman Entities” may well be non-terrestrial. This would seem more reasonable than them being some “demonic” force conjured up, may just be a Detached Consciousness from another planet. While this hypothesis does allow for violent and malicious

Detached Consciousnesses to exist, they would not be dark forces that some paranormal researchers would claim, but purely people who were of this disposition before they passed away.

Sensitives and Perceptions of "Spirits"

Given the fact that everyone isn't seeing these Detached Consciousnesses everywhere they go, there must be a reason why some people seem to be able to perceive these entities. Now, if we eliminate the fakes that prey on people and assume that there are some people who can actually see them, then there would presumably be some factor that made them different from the majority of people.

I would propose that the mechanisms to perceive these entities are in everyone, if we were not able to perceive consciousness, on some level, even if we don't realise it. We must be able to see a state of consciousness in ourselves and in others, as we are able to see life and sentience around us. There is also the simulation model, where reality is only created as we perceive it. Factor in the idea that if we believe that a deceased person is no longer around, it could be that we convince ourselves that we can no longer perceive them. As this is our common perception of what our view of reality has taught us to believe will happen.

This idea would also be a possible explanation for the anecdotal stories of families being visited by a family member, then being informed after they have left that they had died a few days previously. While these could just be urban myths or ascribed to false memories or hallucinations. The fact that many of these reported apparitions were of people who died in battle could give credence to the notion that they died so suddenly that they had not yet realised they had passed away. If, in fact, these were just misreported events, it does seem odd that everyone in the household reported interactions with them as if they were physical entities.

We might assume that there is a small number of people whose conciseness is more attuned to the "frequency" of detached consciousnesses, therefore allowing these individuals to be able to see and hear them. If we make the assumption that this mechanism to perceive that energy does exist in everyone, then it may be possible under certain circumstances that this could be triggered and allow any of us to see a detached consciousness. There could be many factors that may cause this to happen, but I would imagine that they would have to be either psychological, physiological or possibly a combination of both.

We should not ignore the fact that if the Detached Consciousness is only just outside of our perceptions, and that these Detached Consciousnesses are made of energy of some kind. Then they may be able to alter our perceptions by concentrating their energy; this would allow them to make themselves visible to us. This would also explain why often "spirits" are only seen for a brief flash. If the energy was being taken from the environment to "power" this action, it may then also account for the reports of cold spots around "Apparitions".

Hauntings

While we have spoken about the way our consciousness may stay behind, I am now going to explore how this may be responsible for the types of "intelligent hauntings" reported by paranormal

investigators. It is possible that depending on the way the consciousness remains in the physical world could affect how the “hauntings” are experienced.

If the consciousness has made a choice to stay and explore the world, checking in on family and friends from time to time. This would be the basis for the most benign type of “hauntings” experienced by people. That of a sense of a presence in the room, possibly hearing footsteps or smelling a familiar scent, maybe even the occasional sense of being touched in a familiar way. With this type of “haunting”, the activity would be infrequent, and while some may find this unsettling, it would have no real negative effects on the people in the location.

Now, if a Detached Consciousness has not chosen to stay but has found itself trapped in the physical world, then this may result in a more forceful variety of “haunting”. As I proposed earlier, if these entities have all the faculties of their physical self then there could be a level of frustration or even anger around the location they are stuck in. This may be especially true if they are being unsuccessful in trying to communicate with the people with physical forms there.

This heightened state for the Detached Consciousness could result in acts of lashing out at the people, believing that they are ignored. These acts could result in objects being moved or power surges in the home, or rapid changes in temperature. They may also, in some extreme instances, result in people feeling like they have been pushed.

This notion is not to say that every power surge is the result of an upset Detached Consciousness that is trying to communicate with us. If they are now only energy and are trying to communicate, disrupting electrics and electronics may be the easiest way to make their presence known.

If a Detached Consciousness has not been able to move on because they feel they have unfinished business. It may be possible if they are able to complete their task or deliver their message, then they may be able to make the choice to leave and join the gestalt-like consciousness, or to remain and explore. Where a Detached Consciousness is unable to move on through fear, real or imagined, then these may never be able to leave the physical world. This lack of ability to leave and frustration with not realising people can not perceive them may have an end result in creating the more malevolent “hauntings” that get reported.

Visions of “Spirits”

While I have briefly touched on the idea of a Detached Consciousness being seen by anyone, on occasions, here I will be looking at this idea in more depth. There seems to be more than one form of a Detached Consciousness being seen by anyone. While this doesn’t happen all the time, there must be certain circumstances that create the conditions to allow this to happen, and these may vary depending on the type of vision seen.

The most common type of these Public Visions that get reported tend to revolve around areas where battles took place or in very close proximity to them. This may be because many of the participants' deaths were sudden and probably very traumatic in many cases. Looking back at how Detached Consciousness can become trapped on the physical plane. I feel it would be fair to say that many of

these would fall into the trapped category, though this alone would not be a reason enough to allow for them to be perceived by anyone.

They may become a Public Vision due to solar flare activity, supercharging the atmosphere to create an area of ionised air that would allow the Detached Consciousness in that area to become visible. This principle would act much in the same way as the aurora borealis is visible at lower latitudes during periods of heightened solar activity.

It may also be a case of the Detached Consciousness themselves becoming “supercharged” on the anniversary of their death. This “supercharging” would result in a similar effect to the solar activity hypothesis, making them visible but from an internal charge, rather than the external one.

The other type of Public Visions that gets reported is a more intimate one, that usually revolves around “hauntings” where the Detached Consciousness is related to some that sees them. It is very much associated with a location, most frequently a home. While both of the above hypothesis would certainly fit in with this type of Public Vision, I would posit the idea that it may be more likely that this appearance would be caused by an emotional connection. This connection between the Detached Consciousness and the experient, this may well cause the Detached Consciousness to become visible due to its own energy being boosted and from the desire to be seen.

It may be that a Detached Consciousness could become visible to someone because, as I mentioned above, there is still a connection between the two consciousnesses if they do synchronise. This could be due to the fact that the Non-Detached Consciousness may still be able to, on some level, perceive the Detached Consciousness. Under certain circumstances, they may then see the Detached Consciousness as if they were in the room.

Reincarnation

Now, while I didn’t intend to look at this as a part of the hypothesis, while researching the concepts here, it did occur to me that if it was possible for the Detached Consciousness to join the gestalt-like consciousness. Then it may also be possible for it to leave as well, as I mentioned previously. If this is the case, then it might be that a Detached Consciousness could conceivably become attached to a new life, in a reverse of the process that takes place at death.

Now, whether reincarnation is a real thing or not is a hot topic among many researchers in the paranormal. If we are assuming that the notion of the Detached Consciousness is correct, it may be possible for this to take place. The personality of the Detached Consciousness would not be changed, but it is possible that the memories and emotions would only be accessible to the new person in a subconscious way. This would allow for leaving the new life as a Tabula Rasa, or blank slate.

Other Phenomena

With the simulation model that I discussed above, the version of our reality only being created by the observer, it does, in my opinion, allow for much in the paranormal field to be explained. A

classic example of this would be the poltergeist type haunting. Using this model, it would be entirely possible for a person to subconsciously alter their view of reality and create disturbances in the surrounding environment. This would also allow for the concept of psychokinesis to exist under the same rules, only as a conscious action rather than the subconscious actions of the poltergeist event.

Some versions of the simulation model have also postulated that it is entirely possible that not only would four-dimensional beings like us be able to exist within our “reality”. This view of the model would also allow that higher-dimensional beings could be able to enter our “reality” as observers or participants. This concept could be used to describe some types of non-human entities that are claimed to exist by some people involved in paranormal research.

Using this model as we have of a reality created by our perception of the world around us, may possibly be used to explain the phenomena of apportation. It may be possible for a Detached Consciousness to alter the perception of reality around it, causing an object to seemingly appear out of nowhere. This feat would possibly require the Detached Consciousness to have a subconscious effect on all those in the room to “convince” them of the alteration to reality.

We might also speculate that the simulation model could be responsible for why some people appear to perceive paranormal phenomena more than others. The reasoning for this is that if the observer has to be “convinced” of the alteration in the state of reality being perceived, rather than our “physical” world as we think of it currently. Then, some people may have a more flexible version of that reality than others; it would also help to explain the effect psychological priming can have on some people.

It is important to note here as well that if some people's minds are more attuned to the “wavelength” the Detached Consciousnesses are perceivable. Then, with this enhanced sensitivity, it is entirely possible that they would gain access to the akashic record and permit these “sensitives” to have glimpses of premonitions. These “predictions” could only be based on what events the current situation would allow for, rather than an absolute vision of the future. This idea of these sensitive people getting a possible future, that can be altered as current events change, would go a long way to explain why predictions are so rarely accurate or even come to pass.

Conclusion

It is my hope that if nothing else, even if the concepts put forward here are wrong, this thought experiment will at the very least start people thinking about the ideas put forward here. If paranormal investigators and parapsychologists can look at the subject with a different and new perspective, it may allow for some more reasoning to take place.

Having looked at the most common ideas put forward by paranormal investigators. I think that most of the concepts have been answered in this thought experiment. As well as the possibility of other aspects of the paranormal that were not intentionally looked at in the initial brief. While there have been some very large leaps and interpretations taken of the theories that have been put forward from different scientific fields. It is still possible that this may be a reasonable attempt at explaining a

process that has yet to have little thought applied to how these phenomena occur by paranormal researchers.

I think that if the only result from this thought experiment is to make other researchers give the idea of what a spirit might be and how they could come into existence, it would be a good result. Even if this project only makes people question existing hypotheses around the paranormal, having seen how easy it can be to rationalise a hypothesis, I would feel quite happy.

While I never intended this to be more than a thought experiment to let my mind visit the possibilities of what might be, it did give me one glaring conclusion. That conclusion is that we know very little about the world around us and that a lot of what we believe to be science, especially in the field of physics, is very dependent on which researcher you listen to. It also became quite evident to me that those who deny the paranormal are often as guilty of latching on mindlessly and unwaveringly to an idea as those who are staunch believers; they are, if you like, both sides of the same coin. What we need is to be truly open minded yet keep a rational view of what we may be seeing on both sides of the debate.

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